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Hearing Date and Time: March 7, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) Response Deadline: February 16, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. (Eastern Time)

ROPES & GRAY LLP Gregg M. Galardi D. Ross Martin Jonathan M. Agudelo 1211 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036-8704 Telephone: (212) 596-9000

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Counsel to the Debtors and Debtors in Possession

## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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In re : Chapter 11

Gawker Media LLC, et al., 1 : Case No. 16-11700 (SMB)

:

Debtors. : (Jointly Administered)

-----X

# NOTICE OF DEBTORS' SIXTH OMNIBUS OBJECTION TO CLAIMS (AMENDED AND SUPERSEDED CLAIMS)

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the undersigned have filed the attached *Debtors' Sixth Omnibus Objection to Claims (Amended and Superseded Claims)* (the "Objection"), which seeks to alter your rights by disallowing your claims against the above-captioned Debtors.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a hearing on the Objection will take place on March 7, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) before the Honorable Judge Stuart M. Bernstein, at the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York,

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The last four digits of the taxpayer identification number of the debtors are: Gawker Media LLC (0492); Gawker Media Group, Inc. (3231); and Gawker Hungary Kft (f/k/a Kinja Kft.) (5056). Gawker Media LLC and Gawker Media Group, Inc.'s mailing addresses are c/o Opportune LLP, Attn: William D. Holden, Chief Restructuring Officer, 10 East 53rd Street, 33rd Floor, New York, NY 10022. Gawker Hungary Kft.'s mailing address is c/o Opportune LLP, Attn: William D. Holden, 10 East 53rd Street, 33rd Floor, New York, NY 10022.

Alexander Hamilton Custom House, One Bowling Green, New York, New York 10004-1408, Courtroom No. 723.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that responses to the Objection and the relief requested therein, if any, shall be in writing, shall conform to the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and the Local Bankruptcy Rules for the Southern District of New York, shall set forth the basis for the response or objection and the specific grounds therefore, and shall be filed with the Court electronically in accordance with General Order M-399 by registered users of the Court's case filing system (the User's Manual for the Electronic Case Filing System can be found at http://www.nysb.uscourts.gov, the official website for the Court), with a hard copy delivered directly to chambers pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9028-1 and served so as to be actually received no later than February 16, 2017, at 4:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) (the "Response Deadline"), upon: (i) the Debtors, Gawker Media LLC, c/o Opportune LLP, Attn: William D. Holden, Chief Restructuring Officer, 10 East 53rd Street, 33rd Floor, New York, NY 10022 (wholden@opportune.com); (ii) counsel for the Debtors, Ropes & Gray LLP, 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10036, Attn: Gregg M. Galardi (gregg.galardi@ropesgray.com); (iii) the Office of the United States Trustee for the Southern District of New York, 201 Varick Street, Suite 1006, New York, NY 10014, Attn: Greg Zipes & Susan Arbeit; (iv) the Internal Revenue Service, Attn: Centralized Insolvency Operation, 2970 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104 (mimi.m.wong@irscounsel.treas.gov); (v) the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, Attn: Bankruptcy Division, 86 Street. 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10007 (david.jones6@usdoj.gov; Chambers Jeffrey.Oestericher@usdoj.gov; Joseph.Cordaro@usdoj.gov; Carina.Schoenberger@usdoj.gov); (vi) counsel to Cerberus Business Finance, LLC, Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP, 919 Third Avenue,

New York, New York 10022, Attn: Adam C. Harris (adam.harris@srz.com); (vii) counsel to US VC Partners LP, Latham & Watkins LLP, at both 330 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 2800, Chicago, IL 60611, Attn: David Heller (david.heller@lw.com) and 885 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10022, Attn: Keith A. Simon (keith.simon@lw.com); (viii) counsel for the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, 425 Lexington Ave., New York, NY 10017, Attn: Sandy Qusba (squsba@stblaw.com) and William T. Russell (wrussell@stblaw.com); and (ix) parties that have requested notice pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002.

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that if you do not timely file and serve a written response to the relief requested in the Objection by the Response Deadline, the Bankruptcy Court may deem any opposition waived, treat the Objection as conceded, and enter an order granting the relief requested in the Objection without further notice or hearing.

[Remainder of this page intentionally left blank]

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a copy of the Objection may be obtained free of charge by visiting the website of Prime Clerk LLC at http://cases.primeclerk.com/gawker.

You may also obtain copies of any pleadings by visiting the Court's website at http://www.nysb.uscourts.gov in accordance with the procedures and fees set forth therein.

Dated: February 3, 2017 New York, New York /s/ Gregg M. Galardi
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Hearing Date and Time: March 7, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) Response Deadline: February 16, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. (Eastern Time)

ROPES & GRAY LLP Gregg M. Galardi D. Ross Martin Jonathan M. Agudelo 1211 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036-8704 Telephone: (212) 596-9000

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## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----X

In re : Chapter 11

Gawker Media LLC, et al., 1 : Case No. 16-11700 (SMB)

Debtors. : (Jointly Administered)

Debtors. . (Jointly Administer

DEBTORS' SIXTH OMNIBUS OBJECTION TO

THIS OBJECTION SEEKS TO DISALLOW AND EXPUNGE CERTAIN PROOFS OF CLAIM. CLAIMANTS RECEIVING THIS OBJECTION SHOULD LOCATE THEIR NAMES AND CLAIMS ON SCHEDULE 1 ATTACHED TO THE PROPOSED ORDER.

CLAIMS (AMENDED AND SUPERSEDED CLAIMS)

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT DEBTORS' COUNSEL, GREGG M. GALARDI, AT (212) 596-9000.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The last four digits of the taxpayer identification number of the debtors are: Gawker Media LLC (0492); Gawker Media Group, Inc. (3231); and Gawker Hungary Kft. (f/k/a Kinja Kft) (5056). Gawker Media LLC and Gawker Media Group, Inc.'s mailing addresses are c/o Opportune LLP, Attn: William D. Holden, Chief Restructuring Officer, 10 East 53rd Street, 33rd Floor, New York, NY 10022. Gawker Hungary Kft.'s mailing address is c/o Opportune LLP, Attn: William D. Holden, 10 East 53rd Street, 33rd Floor, New York, NY 10022.

Gawker Media LLC ("Gawker Media"), Gawker Media Group, Inc. ("GMGI"), and Gawker Hungary Kft. ("Gawker Hungary") as debtors and debtors in possessions (collectively, the "Debtors") in the above-captioned cases (the "Bankruptcy Cases"), hereby file this sixth omnibus objection (the "Objection") to certain claims identified on Schedule 1 to Exhibit A attached hereto (the "Superseded Claims") and seek entry of an order (the "Order"), substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, disallowing and expunging such Superseded Claims pursuant to section 502 of title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. § 101, et seq. (the "Bankruptcy Code") and Rule 3007 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"). In support of this Objection, the Debtors submit the declaration of William D. Holden (the "Holden Declaration"), attached hereto as Exhibit B. In further support of this Objection, the Debtors respectfully state as follows:

### **BACKGROUND**

- 1. On June 10, 2016 (the "<u>Petition Date</u>"), Gawker Media filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. On June 12, 2016, GMGI, and Gawker Hungary each filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors are operating their businesses as debtors in possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 2. No request for the appointment of a trustee or examiner has been made in the Debtors' chapter 11 cases. On June 24, 2016, the United States Trustee for the Southern District of New York (the "<u>U.S. Trustee</u>") appointed an official committee of unsecured creditors pursuant to section 1102 of the Bankruptcy Code [Docket No. 62] (the "Committee").
- 3. On July 14, 2016, the Court entered an order [Docket No. 100] appointing Prime Clerk LLC ("Prime Clerk") as the notice and claims agent in these chapter 11 cases. Among other things, Prime Clerk is authorized to (a) receive, maintain, and record and otherwise

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administer the proofs of claim filed in these chapter 11 cases and (b) maintain the official Claims Register for the Debtors (the "Claims Register").

- 4. On August 11, 2016, the Bankruptcy Court entered an order [Docket No. 168] (the "Bar Date Order") establishing certain dates and deadlines for filing proofs of claim in these chapter 11 cases. Specifically, among other things, the Court established: (a) September 29, 2016, as the deadline for all persons and entities asserting a claim (as defined in section 101(5) of the Bankruptcy Code) against the Debtors that arose on or prior to the Petition Date, including claims pursuant to section 503(b)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code, to file written proofs of claim; and (b) December 9, 2016, for all governmental units asserting a claim (as defined in section 101(5) of the Bankruptcy Code) against the Debtors that arose on or prior to the Petition Date to file written proofs of claim (together, the "Bar Dates").
- 5. In accordance with the Bar Date Order, the Debtors provided written notice of the Bar Dates to all known potential creditors of the Debtors according to the Debtors' books and records at the time of mailing of the notice. The Debtors also provided written notice of the Bar Dates to each of the parties and entities identified as creditors on each of the Schedules, and, on August 17, 2016 and September 14, 2016, the Debtors published notice of the Bar Dates in the national edition of *USA TODAY*.<sup>2</sup>
- 6. To date, over 330 proofs of claim have been filed against the Debtors in these chapter 11 cases.
- 7. On July 20, 2016, the Debtors filed their schedules of assets and liabilities with the Court pursuant to section 521 of the Bankruptcy Code (as modified, amended, or supplemented, collectively, the "Schedules"). Under section 1111(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, in these chapter 11 cases, proofs of claim are deemed filed for claims listed on the Schedules.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Affidavit of Publication [Docket No.201, 271].

- 8. On September 9, 2016, pursuant to this Court's Order (I) Authorizing the Sale of Substantially All of the Debtors' Assets Free and Clear of All Claims, Liens, Rights, Interests and Encumbrances, (II) Approving and Authorizing the Debtors' Entry Into the Asset Purchase Agreement and (III) Authorizing the Debtors to Assume and Assign Certain Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases [Docket No. 214], the Debtors sold substantially all of their assets to Unimoda, LLC.
- 9. On December 11, 2016, the Debtors' filed the *Amended Joint Chapter 11*Plan of Liquidation for Gawker Media Group, Inc., Gawker Media LLC, and Gawker Hungary

  Kft. [Docket No. 576, Exhibit A] (as may be subsequently amended or modified, the "Plan").
- 10. On December 22, 2016, the court confirmed the Plan pursuant to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order Confirming the Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan of Liquidation for Gawker Media Group, Inc., Gawker Media LLC, and Gawker Hungary Kft. [Docket No. 638]. The Plan's Effective Date (as defined in the Plan) will occur as soon as the Debtors complete the preparation of their tax returns for 2016, which they anticipate doing before the end of the first quarter of 2017.

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

11. This Court has jurisdiction to consider this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). The statutory predicate for the relief requested herein is section 502 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 3007.

#### RELIEF REQUESTED

12. The Debtors file this Objection pursuant to section 502 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 3007(d), seeking entry of the Order disallowing and expunging in their entirety the Superseded Claims identified on **Schedule 1** to the Order.

#### **BASIS FOR RELIEF**

- 13. A filed proof of claim is "deemed allowed, unless a party in interest . . . objects." 11 U.S.C. § 502(a). If an objection refuting at least one of the claim's essential allegations is asserted, the claimant has the burden to demonstrate the validity of the claim. *See In re Oneida Ltd.*, 400 B.R. 384, 389 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2009); *In re Adelphia Commc'ns Corp.*, Case No. 02-41729 (REG), 2007 Bankr. LEXIS 660, at \*15 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Feb. 20, 2007); *In re Rockefeller Ctr. Props.*, 272 B.R. 524, 539 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2000).
- 14. Section 502(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code provides, in relevant part, that a claim may not be allowed to the extent that "such claim is unenforceable against the debtor and property of the debtor, under any agreement or applicable law." 11 U.S.C. § 502(b)(1).
- 15. The Debtors have authority to file this Objection pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 3007(d)(3), which authorizes debtors to join in an omnibus fashion those "objections to more than one claim . . . based solely on the grounds that the claims should be disallowed, in whole or in part, because . . . they have been amended by subsequently filed proofs of claim." Fed. R. Bankr. Proc. 3007(d)(3).

#### **OBJECTION**

- 16. The Debtors object to [two] ([2]) Superseded Claims, each of which is a proof of claim filed against the Debtors in these chapter 11 cases. To ease the administrative burden on this Court and the Debtors' estates during the claims reconciliation process, the Debtors submit this Objection in an omnibus fashion, in accordance with the Bankruptcy Rules.
- 17. The Superseded Claims have been amended or superseded by the claimant through a subsequently-filed proofs of claim, which are identified on <u>Schedule 1</u> of the Order in the column entitled "Surviving Claim" (the "<u>Surviving Claims</u>"). As the Superseded Claims have been superseded by the Surviving Claims, the Debtors request that the Court disallow and

expunge the Superseded Claims. The relief requested by this Objection will have no effect on the Surviving Claims, which shall remain subject to allowance or the Debtors' rights to object thereto.

#### **RESERVATION OF RIGHTS**

18. Neither the filing of this Objection nor entry of the Order shall affect any rights of the Debtors, their estates, the Plan Administrator (as defined in the Plan), or any other party in interest in these chapter 11 cases from any and all rights to amend, supplement or otherwise modify this Objection or the Order and to file further objections with respect to the Superseded Claims or the Surviving Claims for any purpose. The Debtors and their estates also reserve any and all rights, claims and defenses with respect to the Superseded Claims and the Surviving Claims, and nothing included in or omitted from this Objection or the Order is intended or shall be deemed to impair, prejudice, waive or otherwise affect any rights, claims, or defenses of the Debtors and their estates with respect to the Superseded Claims or the Surviving Claims.

#### **NOTICE**

19. Notice of this Objection has been provided in accordance with the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 3007(a), the Case Management Procedures entered on July 13, 2016 [Docket No. 93], and the Local Bankruptcy Rules of this Court. The Debtors respectfully submit that further notice of this Objection is neither required nor necessary.

[Remainder of this page intentionally left blank]

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WHEREFORE, for the reasons set forth herein, the Debtors respectfully request that the court (a) enter the Order, and (b) grant such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

Dated: February 3, 2017 New York, New York /s/ Gregg M. Galardi
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